**Foreign exchange outgo on VCR,VCP etc.**

3614. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average foreign exchange outgo per piece on VCR, VCP, CTV and 36|51 CMB & W, TV;

(b) what is the excise duty on each of the above items;

(c) whether the variations in excise duty is in harmony with foreign exchange outgo for the importance of each item to the common man for mass communication; and

(d) how do Government propose to correct the imbalances|disharmonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The average foreign exchange outgo expressed as a percentage of the exfactory price in the case of VCR, VCP, Colour TV and Black and White TV is estimated to be as under:

| | |
|---|---|
| VCR/VCP | 40% |
| Colour TV (51 cm) | 25% |
| Black and White TV | 5% |

(b) The excise duty on each of the above items is given below.

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| (1) VCR | 2,100 |
| (2) VCP | 1,575 |
| (3) Colour TV of screen size not exceeding 36 c | 2,000 |
| (4) Colour TV of screen size not exceeding 36 cm | |
| ) without remote control facility n- picture type) | 2,250 |
| with remote control facility (other than picture-in-picture type) | 2,500 |
| (iii) picture-in-picture type with or without remote control facility | 4,000 |
| (5) Black and White TV | |
| (i) Screen size not exceeding 36 cm | Nil |
| (ii) Screen size exceeding 36 cm | 500 |

In addition special excise duty at the rate of 5 per cent of the basic excise duty is also leviable.

(c) and (d) Excise duty is fixed keeping in view revenue and other considerations such as the state of industrial production in the item consumption pattern and foreign exchange outgo.

**Birth rate of various communities**

3615. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the birth rates of Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs in India in 1978-79 and in 1988-89;

(b) what is the increase in population in the last ten years among Hindus Muslims, Christians and Sikhs; and

(c) what measures are proposed to be taken to check the birth rate among the various communities in India?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The data relating to the birth rates for 1978-79 and 1988-89 are not available.

(b) The increase in population in the last ten years among Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs is not available.

(c) To keep the population growth in the country within the manageable limits, we have a well defined strategy which lays emphasis on improving quality of services, enhancing child survival rates through Universal Immunisation Programme, intensifying Population education, enhancing community participation, adopting improved communication approaches and involving Voluntary organisations. Besides, reinforcement of training and re-